9: Kinietz E-4, 5 (1938) 1946
NM7 Delaware NM7

IV. ETHNOGRAPHIC NOTES

Astronomy, Mathematics, etc.

1.[1] Planetary system

According to Captain Pipe, the stars were put in the sky for the guidance of the Indians—the whites had the compass. According to John Johnston, the Indians believed that there were four fixed stars in the North, East, South, and West, which were rivets holding up the sky. The seven stars were once seven boys who became such wizards that they could not dwell upon the earth. 821 [791 773]

2. Origin myth

Captian Pipe—They claim to be descendants of the Wyandots, and relate these circumstances connected with their birth. The Wyandots sprang from a hole in the earth, which is still to be seen on Lake Huron. Not long after their discovery of the world above, which they now inhabit, a virgin of that nation became pregnant from some unnatural cause and in due time was delivered of twins, a son and daughter, who spoke a language entirely different from their parent; to wit, that of the present Delawares. That it was customary at that time to marry very near relatives; that these twins were so united and from this incestuous intercourse sprang the Lenee Lenaupaa, who, by direction of their uncles, the Wyandots, went to the borders of the Ocean and there settled themselves. 773 [835]

They suppose that there was formerly a body like our sun, which they call a great cornstalk with wide spreading branches, planted by "the God" in another world far above us—there, they suppose, lived a tribe of Indians, with a chief at their head—one time, one of the women who had a child was taken sick, and being asked what would cure her, she said, "If this corn stalk was pulled up, and I was laid by the hole, from hence it was taken, I should get well." The chief gave orders, and the corn

[1] Numbers refer to the numbers given to the elements in the table, *ante*, pp. 22-37.